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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/817,637	03/26/2001	Sandeep K. Singhal	RSW920000164US1	6891
7590	07/08/2005		EXAMINER PHAN, TAM T	
A. Bruce Clay IBM Corporation T81/503 P.O. Box 12195 Research Triangle Park, NC 27709			ART UNIT 2144	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 07/08/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/817,637

Applicant(s)

SINGHAL, SANDEEP K.

Examiner

Tam (Jenny) Phan

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 October 2004.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 8, 9, 18-22, 24, 25, 33 and 35-40 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 8, 9, 18-22, 24, 25, 33 and 35-40 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 March 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's request for reconsideration of the finality of the rejection of the last Office action is persuasive and, therefore, the finality of that action is withdrawn.
2. Amendment received on 06/15/2005 has been entered. Claims 35-38 are currently amended.
3. Claims 1-6, 8-9, 18-22, 24-25, 33, and 35-40 are presented for examination.

Priority

4. No priority claims have been made.
5. The effective filing date for the subject matter defined in the pending claims in this application is 03/26/2001.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1-6, 8-9, 18-22, 24-25, 33, and 35-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barritz et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,889,376), hereinafter referred to as Barritz, in view of Hansen (U.S. Patent Number 5,819,042).
8. Regarding claim 1, Barritz disclosed a method for configuring a network (Abstract, column 1 lines 33-37), comprising: performing a first configuration for a first device for use in the network (Abstract, Figure 1 steps 2 & 4, column 1 lines 33-37); storing first configuration information for the first configuration on a storage device

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(Abstract, Figure 1 step 7, column 8 lines 9-40); reading the first configuration information from the storage device at a second device (Figure 1 step 8, column 9 lines 4-22, column 12 lines 23-30); and performing a second configuration for the second device for use in the network based on the default values, wherein first configuration of the first device and second configuration the second device are performed prior to networking the first device and the second device (Abstract, column 10 lines 16-21, column 12 line 52-column 13 line 2).

9. Barritz taught the invention substantially as claimed. However, Barritz did not expressly teach a method in responsive to the first configuration information being present on the storage device, prompting the user to select whether to clone the first configuration; and in responsive to the user selecting to not clone the first configuration, generating default values based on the first configuration information.

10. Barritz suggested exploration of art and/or provided a reason to modify the method for configuring a network with additional features that would allow users to interact with the configuring process (column 10 lines 16-21, column 10 line 61-column 11 line 15, column 13 line 66-column 14 line 4).

11. Hansen disclosed a method in responsive to the first configuration information being present on the storage device, prompting the user to select whether to clone the first configuration; and in responsive to the user selecting to not clone the first configuration, generating default values based on the first configuration information (Abstract, column 5 lines 2-25, column 6 lines 15-30, column 10 lines 23-39, column 14 lines 21-36).

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12. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the method of Barritz with the teachings of Hansen to include features that would allow users to interact with the configuring process in order to allow customization since users could specify and provide requested information that would be unique to their device (Hansen, column 14 lines 21-36).

13. Regarding claims 2-4, Hansen disclosed a method, wherein performing the first configuration the first device includes configuring a host application; wherein the first configuration information includes a host address; and wherein performing the second configuration of the second device includes configuring a client application to communicate with the host application at the host address over the network (column 6 lines 15-30, column 14 lines 21-36).

14. Regarding claims 5-6, Barritz disclosed a method wherein the host application is selected from a list of possible host applications for the client application and wherein the list of possible host applications is derived from previous configurations; and a method further comprising storing second configuration information for the second configuration on the storage device (Title, Abstract, Figures 1, 7A, column 8 lines 9-40, column 10 line 61-25, Claim 1).

15. Regarding claims 8-9, Barritz disclosed a method, further comprising: responsive to the user selecting to clone the first configuration, copying the first configuration information to the second device; and wherein the storage device is a floppy disk (Title, Abstract, Figures 1, 7A, column 8 lines 9-40, column 10 line 61-25).

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16. Regarding claims 18-22 and 24-25, the apparatus for configuring a network corresponds directly to the method of claims 1-6 and 8-9, and thus these claims are rejected using the same rationale.

17. Regarding claims 33 and 35-40, the computer program product for configuring a network corresponds directly to the method of claims 1-6 and 8 and the apparatus of claims 18-22 and 24, and thus is rejected using the same rationale.

18. Since all the limitations of the claimed invention were disclosed by the combination of Barritz and Braun, claims 1-6, 8-9, 18-22, 24-25, 33, and 35-40 are rejected.

19. Claims 1-6, 8-9, 18-22, 24-25, 33, and 35-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kreisel et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,088,516), hereinafter referred to as Kreisel, in view of Hunter et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,161,176), hereinafter referred to as Hunter.

20. Regarding claim 1, Kreisel disclosed a method for configuring a network (Abstract, Figure 1a), comprising: performing a first configuration for a first device for use in the network (Figure 1a, column 10 table 4); storing first configuration information for the first configuration on a storage device (column 10 table 4, column 10 lines 51-65); reading the first configuration information from the storage device at a second device (column 13 lines 1-23); responsive to the first configuration information being present on the storage device, prompting the user to select whether to clone the first configuration (column 13 lines 1-23); and performing a second configuration for the second device for use in the network (column 2 lines 11-16, column 13 lines 1-23),

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wherein the first configuration of the first device and the second configuration of the second device are performed prior to networking the first device and the second device (Figure 1a, column 4 lines 20-37, column 10 lines 31-40, lines 45-54).

21. Kreisel taught the invention substantially as claimed. However, Kreisel did not expressly teach a method in responsive to the user selecting to not clone the first configuration, generating default values based on the first configuration information; and performing a second configuration for the second device for use in the network based on the default values.

22. Kreisel suggested exploration of art and/or provided a reason to modify the method for configuring a network with additional features such as generating default values for configuration (column 10 lines 40-44, column 13 lines 1-23, lines 49-57).

23. Hunter disclosed a method a method in responsive to the user selecting to not clone the first configuration, generating default values based on the first configuration information (column 2 lines 37-57, column 6 lines 1-22); and performing a second configuration for the second device for use in the network based on the default values (column 3 lines 3-12, lines 17-29, column 11 lines 9-32).

24. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the method of Kreisel with the teachings of Hunter to include generating default values for configuration in order to offer users option to configure the second device appropriately by allowing users to elect the desire configuration settings for the second device (Hunter, column 11 lines 15-32).

25. Regarding claims 2-4, Kreisel disclosed a method, wherein performing the first configuration the first device includes configuring a host application; wherein the first

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configuration information includes a host address; and wherein performing the second configuration of the second device includes configuring a client application to communicate with the host application at the host address over the network (Figure 1a, column 4 lines 20-33, lines 38-59).

26. Regarding claims 5-6, Kreisel disclosed a method wherein the host application is selected from a list of possible host applications for the client application and wherein the list of possible host applications is derived from previous configurations; and a method further comprising storing second configuration information for the second configuration on the storage device (Figure 1a, column 4 lines 20-33, lines 38-59, column 10 table 4, column 13 lines 1-23).

27. Regarding claims 8-9, Kreisel disclosed a method, further comprising: responsive to the user selecting to clone the first configuration, copying the first configuration information to the second device; and wherein the storage device is a floppy disk (column 10 table 4, column 10 lines 45-65, column 13 lines 1-23).

28. Regarding claims 18-22 and 24-25, the apparatus for configuring a network corresponds directly to the method of claims 1-6 and 8-9, and thus these claims are rejected using the same rationale.

29. Regarding claims 33 and 35-40, the computer program product for configuring a network corresponds directly to the method of claims 1-6 and 8 and the apparatus of claims 18-22 and 24, and thus is rejected using the same rationale.

30. Since all the limitations of the claimed invention were disclosed by the combination of Kreisel and Hunter, claims 1-6, 8-9, 18-22, 24-25, 33, and 35-40 are rejected.

Response to Arguments

31. Applicant's arguments with respect to pending claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

32. As the rejection reads, Examiner asserts that the combination of these teachings render the claimed invention obvious.

Conclusion

33. Applicant's amendment received on 10/28/2004 necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

34. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Refer to the enclosed PTO-892 for details.

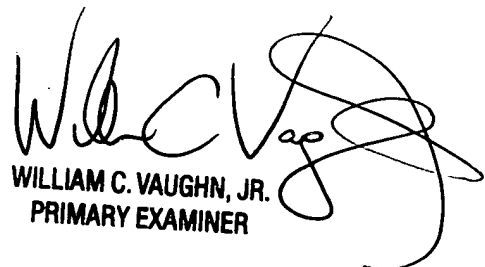
35. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tam (Jenny) Phan whose telephone number is (571) 272-3930. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00-5:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Wiley can be reached on (571) 272-3923. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


WILLIAM C. VAUGHN, JR.
PRIMARY EXAMINER

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June 28, 2005